News Release Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

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Full Service Animal Hospital Opens In Englehart - #910072

Government Supports Northern Ontario Business Growth

SUDBURY – The Ontario government is helping a veterinary practice in Englehart expand to offer a more extensive range of services, Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci announced today.

"Our government is committed to working with northern entrepreneurs and professionals to bring important consumer services to all parts of the province," said Bartolucci, who is also chair of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC). "Access to more expansive veterinary care in Englehart means local pet owners and the area farming community can enjoy greater peace of mind when it comes to the care of their animals."

The NOHFC will provide $168,500 to Englehart Animal Hospital to expand a veterinary practice operating since 1980. Funding is being provided through the Enterprise North Job Creation Program. Veterinarian Dr. Ruth Schaap will purchase and renovate a larger downtown location to include more examining rooms, caging and bathing facilities.

"We are pleased to help this animal care facility grow and expand to offer essential veterinary services to this and surrounding communities," said Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP David Ramsay. "Businesses like this provide important services and contribute to the overall economic prosperity of the North."

Other McGuinty government initiatives for northern prosperity include:

• Investing more than $26 million in rural communities through the Rural Economic Development Program
• Contributing, with the Government of Canada, up to $298 million to the Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (COMRIF) over five years to improve and renew public infrastructure
• Recognizing innovation in the province's agriculture sector by creating the five-year, $2.5-million Premier's Awards for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence.

These initiatives are part of the government's Northern Prosperity Plan for building stronger northern communities. The Northern Prosperity Plan has four pillars: Strengthening the North and its

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Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All.

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Contacts:

Laura Blondeau
Minister's Office – Sudbury
(705) 564-7454

Michel Lavoie
MNDM – Sudbury
(705) 564-7125

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